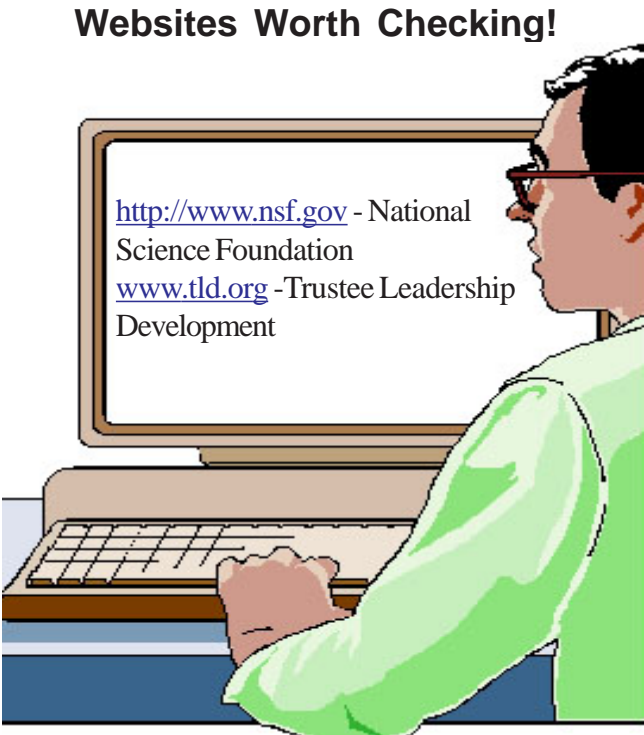




“People can’t live with change if there’s not a changeless core inside them. The key to the ability to change is a changeless sense of who you are, what you are about and what you value.” —**Stephen Covey**

The Indiana-Head Start Collaboration Office is funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Director - Susan Lightle  
Administrative Assistant - Clara McCarty



Websites Worth Checking!

If you have articles that you want published in the next newsletter, please email them to me by July 21, 2006. If you have a resource beneficial to other Head Start programs, please forward that information also. THIS NEWSLETTER MAY BE REPRODUCED. Please send the information to me: Clara McCarty, Editor, at clara.mccarty@fssa.in.gov

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Head Start Headlines

Indiana-Head Start Collaboration Office

Volume 8 No. 2 June 2006



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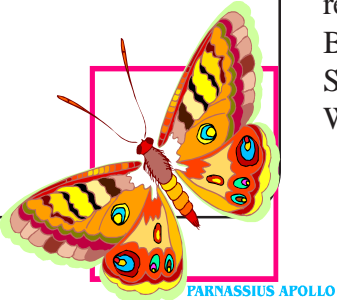
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Message from  
Susan Lightle

Indiana-Head Start  
Collaboration Office

Our name has changed. We have been known as The Partnership Office, different from the other Head Start Offices throughout the country. In the beginning, Indiana had a Collaboration Office in existence and so we took The Partnership name. Now we can be known as Indiana-Head Start Collaboration Office. I am sure it will take a while for all to get used to this but now seemed the perfect time.

It is an exciting time to be in this position with all of the changes in progress. Just recently the Governor announced an additional \$18 million to help low-income families pay for child care, eliminating the waiting list for vouchers.

In this first month I have had the opportunity to meet with and glean information from many outstanding individuals with tremendous passion for Indiana’s children and families. I have met with some of our Head Start Directors, Head Start Association Board, Multi-Agency Advisory Board and attended several conferences. I just recently added a new person to our Multi-Agency Board, M.B. Lippold, Deputy Director of Programs and Services for the Indiana Department of Child Services. Welcome, MB.

In all of these meetings the discussions of collaboration

*continued on page 5*

## Coaching Boys Into Men

Men teach boys how to hit a baseball, hit the net, hit the receiver, and much more. But are we taking time to teach boys that violence against women and girls is wrong? The Family Violence Prevention Fund (FVPPF), the Waitt Institute and the Ad Council have a new 30-second public service advertisement (PSA) that invites men to do just that, as part of the *Coaching Boys Into Men* campaign.

The effort is working. A study by Millward Brown, Inc. and RMA, Inc. found a significant increase in the proportion of men who spoke to boys about violence. Twenty-nine percent said they had done so in November of 2001, before *Coaching Boys Into Men* launched, and 41 percent had done so in February of last year. You can watch the new English-language PSA at [www.endabuse.org/cbim](http://www.endabuse.org/cbim).

Source: *Dads and Daughters* May 11 Update [www.dadsanddaughters.org](http://www.dadsanddaughters.org)

Boys need your advice on how to behave toward girls. Boys are watching how you and other men relate to women to figure out their own stance towards girls. So teach boys early, and teach them often, that there is no place for violence in a relationship.

### Here's How:

**Teach Early.** It's never too soon to talk to a child about violence. Let him know how you think he should express his anger and frustration – and what is out of bounds. Talk with him about what it means to be fair, share and treat others with respect.

**Be there.** If it comes down to one thing you can do, this is it. Just being with boys is crucial. The time doesn't have to be spent in activities. Boys will probably not say this directly — but they want a male presence around them, even if few words are

exchanged.

**Listen.** Hear what he has to say. Listen to how he and his friends talk about girls. Ask him if he's ever seen abusive behavior in his friends. Is he worried about any of his friends who are being hurt in their relationships? Are any of his friends hurting anyone else?

**Tell Him How.** Teach him ways to express his anger without using violence. When he gets mad, tell him he can walk it out, talk it out, or take a time out. Let him know he can always come to you if he feels like things are getting out of hand. Try to give him examples of what you might say or do in situations that could turn violent.

**Bring it up.** A kid will never approach you and ask for guidance on how to treat women. But that doesn't mean he doesn't need it. Try watching TV with him or listening to his music. If you see or hear things that depict violence against women, tell him what you think about it. Never hesitate to let him know you don't approve of sports figures that demean women, or jokes, video games and song lyrics that do the same. And when it comes time for dating, be sure he knows that treating girls with respect is important.

**Be a Role Model.** Fathers, coaches and any man who spends time with boys or teens will have the greatest impact when they "walk the walk." They will learn what respect means by observing how you treat other people. So make respect a permanent way of dealing with people – when you're driving in traffic, talking with customer service reps, in restaurants with waiters, and with your family around the dinner table. He's watching what you say and do and takes his cues from you, both good and bad. Be aware of how you express your anger. Let him know how you define a healthy relationship and always treat women and girls in a way that your son can admire.

**Teach Often.** Your job isn't done once you get

*continued on page 3*

## Family Literacy

### National Center for Family Literacy

The mission of the National Center for Family Literacy is to create educational and economic opportunity for the most at-risk children and parents.



National Center  
for Family Literacy

### National Family Literacy Day®!

This November will be the 13th National Family Literacy Day®. Start planning now to make this the biggest celebration ever! Across the country, special activities and events will showcase the importance of family literacy programs.



Annually, National Family Literacy Day® is officially celebrated on November 1st, but many events are held throughout the month of November. Get a head start to spread the word in your community and build awareness for the importance of families working together toward a better educated tomorrow.

To find the Family Literacy Program in your area, go to <http://www.familit.org/Directory/index.cfm> and enter your zip code or click on the state. A listing of programs will be displayed with the address and phone number.

### Help for Early Readers

The National Center for Family Literacy is making available, at no cost, a computer-based reading development program called *StudyDog*. *StudyDog* is a supplemental reading program designed for children from Pre-K to 2nd Grade. The program can help a child master the core reading skills if the child is ready to learn to read or is as much as a year behind in reading at school.

The creators of *StudyDog* are making this generous offer through NCFL to teachers, literacy practitioners, and parents because of their belief that "success in life begins with being able to read."

**StudyDog - Single User** is ideal for anyone working with a single child or user. **StudyDog - Classroom** is specially designed for tracking multiple users or for use in a classroom setting. You can track the overall progress of up to 20 separate users.

Go to <http://www.familit.org/studydog/index.cfm> to register and download a free copy of *StudyDog - Single User* or *Classroom*.

### National Institute for Literacy



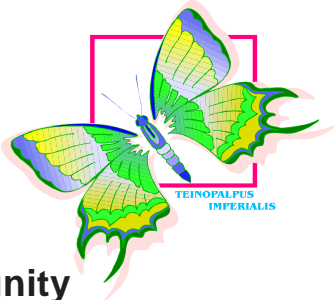
National Institute for Literacy

The National Institute for Literacy, a federal agency, provides leadership on literacy issues, including the improvement of reading instruction for children, youth, and adults. In consultation with the U.S. Departments of Education, Labor, and Health and Human Services, the Institute serves as a national resource on current, comprehensive literacy research, practice, and policy. Visit <http://www.nifl.gov> for additional literacy resources.



2006 Calendar of Events

May 29	Memorial Day ~ State office closed
Jun 1-Jul 4	Fireworks Eye Safety Month <a href="http://www.preventblindness.org">www.preventblindness.org</a>
Jun 11-17	National Men’s Health Week <a href="http://www.menshealthweek.org">www.menshealthweek.org</a>
Jun 14	Flag Day - <a href="http://www.flagday.org">www.flagday.org</a>
Jun 18	Fathers’ Day
Jul 4	Independence Day ~ State office closed
Jul 23	Parents’ Day
Aug	National Immunization Awareness Month <a href="http://www.partnersforimmunization.org">www.partnersforimmunization.org</a>



Funding Opportunity

Office of Minority Health continued from page 9

support community organizations and science-based efforts to eliminate health disparities.

State Partnership Grant Program to Improve Minority Health

As part of a larger national strategy, this new initiative seeks to facilitate the improvement of minority health and elimination of health disparities (adult/child immunization, asthma, cancer, diabetes, heart disease and stroke, HIV, infant mortality, and mental health) through the development of partnerships with established state and territorial offices of minority health.

Technical Assistance and Capacity Development Demonstration Grant Program for HIV/AIDS-Related Services in Minority Communities

Grant recipients will identify community-based minority-serving organizations that are well linked with minority populations affected by HIV/AIDS, and which have recognized needs and/or gaps in their capacity to provide HIV/AIDS-related prevention and

care services. This will be facilitated by providing administrative and programmatic technical assistance; and assisting those community-based minority-serving organizations, through an ongoing mentoring relationship, in the development of their capacity as fiscally viable and programmatically effective organizations to successfully compete for federal funds and other resources.

Programs To Improve Minority Health and Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health

This funding includes three programs: (1) Community Programs to Improve Minority Health; (2) Bilingual/Bicultural Service Demonstration Grant Program; and (3) HIV/AIDS Health Promotion and Education Program.

Get details on the website at <http://www.omhrc.gov>.

Family and Youth Services Bureau

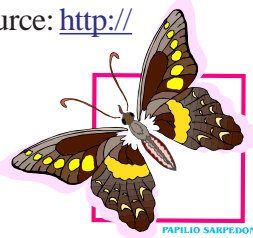
The Family and Youth Services Bureau (FYSB) is accepting applications for the Mentoring Children of Prisoners (MCP) program. This program supports the creation and maintenance of one-on-one mentoring relationships between children of incarcerated parents and caring, supportive adult mentors. The intent of this program is to support the establishment and/or expansion of mentoring programs in communities with substantial numbers of unserved children of incarcerated parents.

The Mentoring Children of Prisoners (MCP) program is designed to be a community-based mentoring program in which children and youth, ages four up to age 18, are appropriately matched with an adult mentor, who has been screened and trained, for a one-on-one (one mentor/one youth), friendship-oriented mentoring relationship. Full announcement is at <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/open/HHS-2006-ACF-ACYF-CV-0029.html>.

Coaching Boys Into Men continued from page 2

the first talk out of the way. Help him work through problems in relationships as they arise. Let him know he can come back and talk to you again anytime. Use every opportunity to reinforce the message that violence has no place in a relationship.

**Become a Founding Father.** Show him how important the issue of violence against women and children is to you. Join thousands of men across the country who are taking a stand against violence. Become a Founding Father yourself. Go to [founding-fathers.org](http://founding-fathers.org) to sign up. Source: <http://www.endabuse.org/cbim>



Myths About Mental Illness Still Prevail

by Melissa Downton

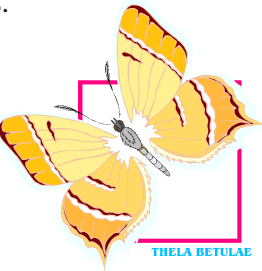
To help clarify some things about mental illness I would like to dispel some of the following myths that exist today:

- Myth: Having an emotional or mental disability means you’re “crazy.”
- Fact: The fact that you’re seeking help is proof of your mental stability.
- Myth: Those with a mental illness are more dangerous than the general population.
- Fact: As a whole, those with mental illness are less dangerous than the average person. In fact, people with mental illness are more likely to be the victims than the perpetrators of crimes.
- Myth: At a young age, children can’t develop emotional disorders.
- Fact: 12% of all children in the US will develop a mental illness during their childhood.
- Myth: If you seek help, you’re a wimp.
- Fact: If you seek help it’s a sign of strength.
- Myth: People with mental illnesses don’t get better.
- Fact: Mental illness is treatable. Medications and techniques are improving. Recovery can be a goal.

- Myth: Mental illness is not a true medical illness/condition.
- Fact: There are genetic and biological causes for mental illness.
- Myth: Depression is a character flaw.
- Fact: Depression has nothing to do with being lazy or weak; it results from changes in brain chemistry and function.
- Myth: Depression is a normal part of the aging process.
- Fact: It is not normal for older adults to be clinically depressed.
- Myth: If you have a mental illness you can “will it” away.
- Fact: It can’t be willed away. Ignoring it doesn’t make it go away, either.
- Myth: Addiction is a lifestyle choice.
- Fact: Addiction usually results from changes in brain chemistry.

To find out more about mental illness, its symptoms, and treatment, contact your local county Mental Health Association or the Indiana Mental Health Association. Call IRCIL at 317-926-1660 or go to the website at [www.ircil.org](http://www.ircil.org) for help with mental health issues and support needs.

Source: Indianapolis Resource Center for Independent Living, *IRCIL Insights*, April 2005



It is the mission of the Center for Effective Collaboration and Practice to support and promote a reoriented national preparedness to foster the development and the adjustment of children with or at risk of developing serious emotional disturbance. To achieve that goal, the Center is dedicated to a policy of collaboration at Federal, state, and local levels that contributes to and facilitates the production, exchange, and use of knowledge about effective practices. Learn about resources offered at <http://cecp.air.org>.



Out and About Indiana Head Start

O.V.O. Head Start

At the April 26, 2006, Male Involvement Activity, several guys turned out with their Head Start child to enjoy an evening full of fun and pizza. The children and their “important man” made stepping stones using a variety of colored rocks, pebbles, marbles, shells, and more. The children and guys also shared pizza together.

While the children enjoyed a little outdoor play, the men heard from a current Head Start Dad who shared his experiences of going to college to improve his future, as well as his children’s future. He shared the process he went through to apply, register, and attend Ivy Tech Community College, as well as general information about financial aid.



Funding Opportunity

Ralph and Eileen Swett Foundation

The Ralph and Eileen Swett Foundation’s mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of individuals. By making grants to other charitable organizations (designated as IRS 501c3 non-profit organizations) the Foundation seeks to fund programs that directly impact the lives of individuals.

Areas of Interest

- The Foundation has identified the following as special areas of interest:
- ◆ Funding programs which assist orphaned children and promote their adoption through funding programs at 501c3 non-profits only.
  - ◆ Intervention in the lives of troubled youths.

Funding is not restricted to those areas. Go to the website at <http://www.swettfoundation.org> to see if your organization qualifies for funding and to submit your application.

Radio Shack Corporation

RadioShack Corporation is dedicated to strengthening the American way of life by helping families protect their children from abduction, violence and abuse. Through the power of prevention education and the use of technology, RadioShack helps improve the quality of life for America’s families.

The *RadioShack StreetSenz Community Grant* program is designed to offer answers that bring community impact through programs or projects conducted by local nonprofit organizations. The program currently focuses on two areas: prevention of family violence/abuse and/or child abduction.

Upcoming grant award cycles:  
**Applications accepted during April / May / June**  
Applications must be postmarked by June 15. Grants

announced in August.  
**Applications accepted during July / August / September**  
Applications must be postmarked by September 15. Grants announced in November.  
**Applications accepted during October / November / December**  
Applications must be postmarked by December 15.

Go to: <http://www.radioshackcorporation.com/cc/contributions.html> for details.

CVS/pharmacy Community Grants

CVS/pharmacy supports the many communities they serve by providing non-profit organizations the opportunity to apply for a CVS/pharmacy Community Grant if the project falls within the funding guidelines.

**Currently accepting proposals for:**  
Programs targeting children under age 18 with disabilities that address any of the following:

- √ Health and rehabilitation services.
- √ Public schools promoting a greater level of inclusion in student activities and extracurricular programs.
- √ Creating opportunities or facilities which give greater access to physical movement and play.
- √ Healthcare services for uninsured people.

All CVS/pharmacy Community Grant Applications must be submitted online. Go to [http://www.cvs.com/corpInfo/community/community\\_grants.html](http://www.cvs.com/corpInfo/community/community_grants.html).

Office of Minority Health Grants

The Office of Minority Health (OMH) administers grant programs in an effort to facilitate community linkages and strategies that use scarce resources efficiently across national lines. These grants aim to

*continued on page 10*



Purdue Cooperative Extension

Dee Love, Purdue Cooperative Extension Specialist

On-Line Resources for Summer

\*\*Just for Kids! Hispanic Web Site Provides Resources for Learning

“YesICanKids,” a Website created by the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans and its partners, features a colorful, interactive online connection for children and their families. “YesICanKids” is a one-stop center for bilingual information designed to help parents and their children navigate the American education system from early childhood through college-age.

The Website, in both English and Spanish, offers interactive activities and information for children and families. <http://YesICanKids.gov>.

\* \* National Safety Council—National Safety Month (June 2006)

The 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary theme, “Making our world a safer place,” reflects the National Safety Council’s mission to prevent accidental injury and death by educating and influencing people to adopt and maintain safe and healthy practices and behaviors in all aspects of their lives.

Throughout the month, 2006 National Safety Month activities will address safety risks and include injury prevention tips applicable to the workplace, driving, and the home and community. Each week in June has been designated a specific safety focus:

June 5-9	Driving
June 12-16	Workplace
June 19-23	Emergency Preparedness
June 26-30	Home and Community

Visit <http://www.nsc.org/nsm> for ideas on how to celebrate National Safety Month in your community.

Find your Extension office: [www.ces.purdue.edu/counties.htm](http://www.ces.purdue.edu/counties.htm) or you call 1-888-398-4636.

Statewide Public Meetings on Uninsured Hoosiers

Submitted by Gwen Killmer, Children’s Health Insurance Program

A series of public meetings will be held in thirteen cities across Indiana to discuss the issue of uninsured Hoosiers. Mitch Roob, secretary of the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA), will lead the discussion.

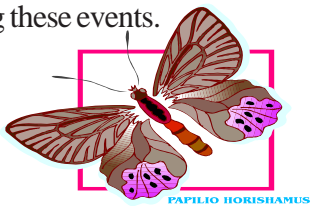
In announcing the meetings, Secretary Roob, noted, “FSSA has been approached by legislators and community leaders to begin a public discussion about the issue of health care affordability and quality, particularly for low-income and uninsured Hoosiers. Our research shows that an increasing number of Hoosiers are without health insurance for a variety of reasons.

We also know that in 2005, each Indiana family with health insurance paid an additional \$953 in premiums to help cover the costs that providers incur serving the uninsured. “Because this issue has broad impacts on the economic and social wellbeing of our State, we are eager to engage in this discussion. Innovative approaches are being pursued in many other states, and we want to learn what people throughout Indiana see as the best approach for us.”

The schedule and locations for the meetings include:

May 22	1:00 – 3:00 p.m.	Crawfordsville
May 30	1:00 – 3:00 p.m.	Ivy Tech Campus 3800 N Anthony Blvd, Fort Wayne
May 30	6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Lakeland High School 805 East 75N, Lagrange
May 31	8:30 – 10:30 a.m.	Ivy Tech Campus 2521 Industrial Parkway, Elkhart
June 6	10:00 – 12 noon	Ivy Tech Campus 7999 S Highway 41, Terre Haute

Contact Dennis Rosebrough 317-232-1149 for more information concerning these events.



Out and About Indiana Head Start

KIRPC HS - Monon by Belinda Gutwein

KIRPC Head Start would like to offer three of our ideas for involving fathers.

1. We had an a "very cool" fatherhood activity for 2006 in the three counties of Newton, Jasper, and Pulaski. We contracted a local craftsman who works with wood. We had 200 "Snowman Kits" made for our families so dads and kids could do an outside activity together. The kits included wooden eyes, carrot nose, smile, pipe, red heart, buttons, and wire-rimmed glasses.

When the pieces were finished, we bought large freezer bags to package the kit. A paper snowman insert was labeled: K-IRPC Head Start Fatherhood Activity Kit "Just Add Snow". The craftsman "inkinded" his time while the program just paid for the materials. It was received very well with one exception: there was not much snow this year. Luckily, the kits are designed to be reused, so there is always next season.

2. Last year we put together a Fatherhood Literacy Toolbox. A plastic toolbox was purchased for each classroom and select books were purchased in English and Spanish. A disposable camera was included as well as a comment sheet. The toolbox was to rotate into every child's home for a week. Dads were encouraged to read with their child and record comments and take a picture for the DAD WALL in the classroom.

This system has received very favorable comments from kids and dads alike. Our traveling library while encouraging literacy has the added benefit of making each child feel special when it is his/her turn to take the toolbox home. This activity is on-going with books being replaced as needed. It has been quite successful. Sometimes the camera was overused, but we never felt the book are overused and actually appreciate that they have "worn out" because they have been handled.

3. KIRPC Head Start has also held "Dads Matter" evening sessions with a male licensed Mental Health Counselor at each of our sites during 2005-06. Although the groups have been small, those who have attended benefited by the interaction and suggestions offered.

That is it for us...hope there is something here you can use. If you want details, give me a call at 888-300-0795.



The Perfect Time continued from page 1

between agencies at the State level and county level is of most importance. Great strides have been made and all want to do even more to continue partnering and collaborating to ensure ongoing communication between agencies.

During the meeting with the Head Start Directors I was struck by the innovative programs being used to encourage and promote parental involvement. They expressed tremendous concern about the devastating effect methamphetamine has had on families and the lives of the children. The grandparents raising grandchildren and legalities they have to deal with. Child abuse, domestic violence, substance abuse and educating parents were just a few of the issues addressed at one of the conferences I attended.

I look forward to working with everyone. Our goal, for ALL children to be safe, healthy and ready to learn.

Please call me at 317-233-6837 or email me at [susan.lightle@fssa.in.gov](mailto:susan.lightle@fssa.in.gov) to express concerns or ideas about your program.

Susie

Spotlight: Indiana Department of Child Services ~ Prevention Services



Interviewed by Clara McCarty

Referral to the Child Safety programs will be initiated by community partners such as Head Start, Community Action Agencies, DCS, schools, child care providers, Youth Services Bureaus, 12 step programs, Comprehensive Mental Health Centers, the faith-based community, Healthy Families etc.

Head Start is a natural partner because of its commitment to youth, its role with families, and its involvement with parental participation. Each Head Start is encouraged to get involved with the Community Partner agency in your region. For additional information, contact Celia at [celia.leaird@dcs.in.gov](mailto:celia.leaird@dcs.in.gov) or Matt Ellis at [matt.ellis@dcs.in.gov](mailto:matt.ellis@dcs.in.gov). Also, check the DCS website: [www.dcs.in.gov](http://www.dcs.in.gov).

Celia laid the educational groundwork for her career by obtaining a Bachelors Degree in Education from Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana. Celia has held a number of social services positions including caseworker, caseworker supervisor, division manager, division director, and local office director. She has always recognized the need for and cost effectiveness of prevention services; the tenure as local office director cemented this vision.



Celia Leaird is the Manager of Prevention Services in the Department of Child Services. Though Indiana has historically spent approximately \$50 million per year on child abuse and neglect prevention, there was not a coordinated, planned prevention continuum prior to the creation of DCS.

Programs administered by Prevention Services are: Healthy Families, Kids First Trust Fund, Community Based Child Abuse Prevention, Youth Service Bureau (YSB), Project Safe Place, and Family Planning. The purpose of prevention efforts is to get to families who are at risk of abuse or neglect before these families enter the DCS system due to a substantiated case of abuse / neglect. Celia said “we want to provide supportive services to families before there is a need to have DCS involvement.”

The newest statewide initiative is Community Partners for Child Safety. This effort is funded by the Kids First Trust Fund and Community Based Child Abuse Prevention. The purpose of Community Partners for Child Safety is to:

- 1.) Engage the community in the prevention of child abuse and neglect through partnerships of community agencies, leaders, and parents who come into contact with at risk families.
- 2.) Prevent families from entering the DCS system through combined efforts of the partnerships.

Celia said during her career she and others often spoke of a time when our state would seriously invest in child abuse prevention efforts. Her conclusion is this: “It may sound corny, but I have the job of my dreams.”

She is glad that others have recognized the dream of a coordinated continuum of prevention and have given her an opportunity to be involved. Celia says that it pays to have a vision because “without a vision, the people perish”.

Dreams do come true and Celia will tell you so as she enjoys her career, 2 children, one daughter-in-law, and 5 grandchildren.

Child Care Development Fund Update

by Michelle Thomas

I was pleased to be part of a Press Conference with Governor Mitch Daniels and FSSA Secretary Mitch Roob. The press conference announced that \$18 million dollars will be made immediately available to enroll CCDF voucher families who are currently on the wait list. The \$18 million dollars will be targeted at serving approximately 3,000 additional children over the next 18 months. Following is the official press release information from Gov. Daniels Office. Please share with all who may benefit from this information. It’s a good day for our Indiana working parents and their children!

INDIANAPOLIS (May 3, 2006) – Savings from better administration of welfare will be used to provide more low-income families with child care in the coming months. Governor Mitch Daniels announced today that the state has freed up an additional \$18 million for 2006 and 2007 to help low-income families pay for childcare, eliminating the waiting list for childcare vouchers.

The additional money will provide care for 3,000 more children, a 10 percent increase, and will reduce the average wait time for vouchers from an average of 49 days to as few as 10 days, as funding is applied.

“A stronger state economy has put 85,000 more Hoosiers to work in the past 15 months. Meanwhile, we’re getting serious about moving people from welfare to work. Together that means more need for childcare vouchers, and we intend to meet it. People who are willing to work and become self-reliant must be helped to do so,” said Daniels.

The additional funds are from the annual Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant. Mitch Roob, secretary of the Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA), said that as the state has improved its error rate by removing people who did not qualify for assistance, funds have been freed up for the childcare voucher program. For the remainder of this year, \$6 million will be available; in 2007, \$12 million is available for use.

Often, according to FSSA, working parents quit their jobs at the end of the school year to stay home with their children because they cannot afford childcare. More funding will turn that trend.

“Studies show that children of low-income families often start school a year and half behind their peers. By giving low income families access to high-quality early care, this gap can be narrowed. High quality childcare meets a child’s developmental, emotional, social and cognitive needs so that children are ready to start school. This early learning leads to future academic success,” said Roob.

Families qualify for childcare vouchers when a parent is working or attending school and the household income is at 127 percent of the federal poverty level (\$15,670 per year for a family of three).

Beginning immediately, parents eligible for child vouchers on the waiting list will be notified by mail and asked to contact an intake agency. Included with the letter is a list of guidelines to help parents select the best childcare provider for their children, including questions about the quality of care both in terms of health/safety and developmentally appropriate activities.

Currently, 30,665 children in Indiana receive childcare vouchers.

Source: Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels’ Office

